FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 APRIL 1986

Libya

President Reagan should be put on trial as a "war criminal and murderer of children" as he is "proven guilty of issuing orders to regular forces to murder children and attack houses," Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi declared in a speech broadcast by Tripoli television the evening of 16 April. Libya, in contrast, has issued no orders to murder anybody, he maintained, adding that the U.S. raids will not make Libya abandon its policy of promoting Arab unity, struggling for the "liberation" of Palestine, and inciting "popular revolution" everywhere. The Libyan leader also announced that he has decided not to escalate military operations in southern Europe and not to establish an "exclusion zone" in the southern Mediterranean, asserting that this decision is in "appreciation" of the stands taken by "friendly countries" like Italy, France, Spain, Greece, and Malta. Nevertheless, Italy and Spain must henceforth prevent the 6th Fleet from using their ports, he said, adding that Libya will otherwise have to escalate operations in self-defense. Welcoming anti-U.S. demonstrations in Sudan and other Arab states, Al-Qadhdhafi noted that Arab leaders have called for an extraordinary Arab summit conference to express support for Libya. As for the internal situation, he urged the media to calm down the tension in the country, telling citizens to switch their lights on and challenging the Americans to launch further raids while music bands are playing in the streets.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev sent a message to Col al-Qadhdhafi, according to JANA. In the message, Gorbachev assured Al-Qadhdhafi that the Soviet Union "firmly intends" to strengthen Libya's defense capability, adding that this is of "special importance" in Libya's present situation. The Soviet leader also informed Al-Qadhdhafi that the Soviet Union repeatedly gave the U.S. Administration "serious warnings" about the "dangerous consequences of its anti-Libyan policy," adding such a "development of events was bound to produce a negative effect on the Soviet-American relations."

Meanwhile, a Libyan "information source" cited by JANA denied a BBC radio correspondent's report about a rebellion in the Bab al-'Aziziyah barracks area of Tripoli. Voice of Greater Arab Homeland likewise urged its listeners to beware of "biased rumors" and "fabrications" broadcast by the BBC and other Western radio stations. The radio also claimed that U.S. While BBC radio had reported an outbreak of shooting around Al-Qadhdhafi's barracks, Libyan sources cited by SANA maintained that the BBC correspondent mistook antiaircraft fire for a coup attempt.

As for the foreign nationals in Libya, AFP reported that the authorities have transferred 52 Italian, British, and Portuguese engineering workers to a military camp "for their safety." The British Foreign Office disclosed that one Briton was arrested in Banghazi 16 April, AFP noted. Al-Qadhdhafi stressed in his television speech that foreigners in Libya are free to leave or stay as they wish.

In other developments, both Kuwait and Algeria have expressed support for an emergency Arab summit, according to KUNA and Algiers radio. A Tunisian spokesman denied Libya's claim that Tunisia has allowed U.S. planes to overfly Tunisian airspace before attacking Libya, according to Tunis radio. Egypt's leading theologian, the Shaykh of Al-Azhar, described the U.S. raid on Libya as an "insult to the Arab nation," according to MENA. In further comment from Syria, Damascus radio's Palestine broadcast asserted that the U.S. attack gives the Arab nation justification to take "revenge" on all U.S. interests in the Arab world. Monitored Syrian media have not been observed to mention a UAE press report that Syrians are operating SAM bases in Libya. A commentary by Algiers radio urged the Arabs to move from the stage of denunciation and condemnation to the stage of "replying by all possible means to the aggressors," adding that the U.S. attack was "an aggression against the entire Arab and Islamic nation."

Sudan

The prime minister addressed a "huge" rally in Khartoum protesting against the U.S. attack on Libya, announcing Sudan's bitter condemnation of the U.S. "flagrant aggression" and asserting that all of Sudan's "potentials" are at Libya's disposal, SUNA reported. The rally was also addressed by a National Alliance official who called for the "expulsion" of U.S. Embassy staff and for the "liquidation" of all U.S. interests in the country. In a related development, SUNA noted that the General Union of Petroleum workers decided to stop refueling all visiting U.S. ships and planes.

In military action in the south, a village in Kongor District was bombed 14 April by two planes belonging to "an Arab country," according to the clandestine SPLA radio. The report noted that seven persons were killed but declined to identify the Arab country.

Syria

"Informed security sources" cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon stated that two car-bombs exploded in the coastal town of Tartus 16 April, killing 27 people and wounding many others. A later radio report spoke of seven explosions in Safita, Latakia, Homs, and Tartus, on buses carrying Syrian Army cadets on leave. The radio said most of the casualties were among Syrian Army members. Monitored Syrian media have not been observed to report the bombings.

Oman

An Omani Foreign Ministry statement cited by Muscat radio said "opposition and misguided elements" "must return" to Oman before 31 December 1986.

Iran-Iraq War

The Kuwaiti chief of staff "categorically denied" an 8 April report by Tehran radio's Arabic service alleging that Kuwaiti naval forces are collecting military information on Iran and passing it on to Iraq, KUNA reported. He also denied the radio's claims that Kuwait has placed its airspace at the Iraqi Air Force's disposal.

In war developments, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio reported that over 500 Iranians were killed and many were wounded in fighting in the central operational sector. The communique also noted that Iraq repulsed two Iranian counterattacks, one in the East Maysan area, the other in the northern operational sector.

On the Iranian side, Iranian artillery fire heavily damaged economic and industrial installations in Banmil and Naft Khaneh, a communique cited by IRNA reported. The communique announced that the Iranian Air Force carried out two bombing raids over Iraq's al-Zubaydat region, inflicting "substantial" casualties on Iraqi troops. In other developments, the official in charge of mobilizing women at the IRGC noted that women volunteers have begun military training, Tehran radio reported.

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Government Statement Condemns U.S. Raids on Libya
LD170822 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0500 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 15, BAKHTAR: Following is the statement of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Today the world public came to know with hatred and indignation about the new criminal action of the U.S. militarists committed against the independent and non-aligned state of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The U.S. war planes, making use of the military bases of that country in Britain and the aircraft carriers of the U.S. naval forces in the Mediterranean basin, bombarded the residential regions of Tripoli and Banghazi cities, which resulted in the death of tens of innocent inhabitants and vast destructions. The damage of the residence of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of Libya and the wounding of a number of his family members are among the consequences of the bombardments.

It is noteworthy that President Reagan, while issuing the order for the piratic operations, has hypocritically stated that the USA was conducting the armed invasion against Libya for the so-called self-defence, against the alleged terroristic actions of Libya, with the deliberate intention of intimidating that country.

Similar impudent and adventurist actions of the U.S. militarists which are carried out by the order of the U.S. President, are nothing else except international banditry of that country against the countries of the world, first and foremost the Islamic world, which includes Libya,

Under such conditions, the State of the DRA calls on all peoples of Islamic world to organise a common front to adopt immediate measures through the United Nations Organisation as well as outside the UNO through the conference of Islamic countries and other regional organisations of Asian and African countries aimed at putting an end to the U.S. aggression againt the brother people of Libya. Joint measures be adopted for foiling the U.S. aggression and economic and political boycott be imposed against that country.

The policy of institutionalised state terrorism followed by the USA and its new consequences are reflected in the barbarous invasion of the U.S. war planes on Libya. It has once again proved that the USA will make use of all means to mar the efforts of peace-loving countries headed by the USSR aimed at relaxation of tension and general disarmament.

Similar actions of the USA cannot be considered other than striving for distracting the attention of world forums from the USSR peace initiatives aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons and complete banning of nuclear explosions. The U.S. military operation in flagrant violation of international law, national sovereignty and independence of Libya, has posed a serious threat to peace and security not only in the Mediterranean basin but throughout the world.

The ignominious and ubridled brigandage of the U.S. Administration are in effect whipping up regional conflicts. They expose all the empty rhetorics of the leader of the Washington administration concerning the so-called U.S. quest for eliminating regional conflicts and they should be strongly condemned by the entire humanity.

Who has given the right to the USA to torpedo the peaceful life of the people of Libya, and to sow destruction and murder in the territory of that country on the forged pretext of the so-called ensuring of the U.S. security?

The revolutionary people of Afghanistan and the Government of the DRA call on all peace-loving peoples and countries of the world to manifest their all round support and solidarity with the brother country of Libya against the direct U.S. aggression at this tense moment.

The DRA decisively and firmly demands that the U.S. keep its hands off Libya and that its barbarous aggression on Libya should be immediate stopped.

The people of Afghanistan express their complete solidarity with the Libyan brothers in their valorious struggle for defending their national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity against the conspiracies of international imperialism headed by the USA.

Mahmud Barialay Addresses Anti-U.S. Demonstration
LD161919 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Excerpts] More than 200,000 Toilers in Kabul city at a protest march and meeting today condemned the bloody crime of U.S. imperialism against the independent and Muslim country, Libya. They expressed resolute solidarity and support for the people of Libya.

[Begin recording] [voices chanting slogans] Death to bloodthirsty Reagan! Long live the people of Libya! The people of Libya are invincible! Death to the reactionary and warmongering circles of America! Long live the heroic people of Afghanistan! Long live the PDPA! Long live the 1 April revolution! Long live Babrak Karmal, the beloved leader of the Afghan people! Death to U.S. imperialism! Death to the murderer Reagan! Death to international imperialism! The heroic people of Libya are not along; Long live the heroic people of Libya! [end recording]

The BIA correspondents report that Mahmud Barialay, candidate Politburo member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Abdorrahim Hatef, member of the DRA Revolutionary Council and Chairman of the NFF Central Council; some officials of the party's Central Committee; some members of the High Council of Ulema and Religious Leaders and representatives of social organizations marched at the head of this grand march. They expressed their profound hatred and indignation against the criminal U.S. imperialism, strongly condemned the inhuman crimes of the American imperialism against the independent Libya.

After marching through Kabul City streets, the marchers then held a grand meeting in front of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul and

set fire to the flag of the United States in protest against the aggression of that country.

Mahmud Barialay made a fervent speech at this meeting and said: U.S. imperialism yesterday morning embarked on yet another bloody crime and, in violation of international law and the UN Charter, engaged in an open aggression with its military might against the free, Muslim and fraternal people of Libya in a shameless and arbitrary manner. We the people of Afghanistan express a very strong protest with a loud voice against this bloody crime of American imperialism and say loudly: Death to U.S. Imperialism.

Our world these days is going through tense moments. U.S. imperialism wants to transform our planet into a plant of tension and war.

Mahmud Barialay added: U.S. imperialism is intensifying the arms race. It carries out irresponsible nuclear tests. The history of U.S. imperialism is a history of crimes, a history of aggression, a history of wars and a history of plundering other nations. In confrontation with the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, U.S. imperialism has begun aggression against the rising nations of the world and has embarked upon the plundering of nations.

We the people of revolutionary Afghanistan feel and see in our blood, flesh, and skin the (?murder) and crimes of U.S. imperialism in the faces of our children and women. It is U.S. imperialism that has encroached upon our country, too, and destroyed the homes and (?lives) of our toilers. The aggression and crimes of U.S. imperialism are known to Lebanon, Palestine, Grenada, Nicaragua, South Africa, and all mankind.

One asks as to how the boss of the White House, Reagan, dares to speak of human rights and the freedom of mankind before the humanity. He himself is a plunderer, colonialist, and murderer.

Mahmud Barialay added: At this grand meeting, we declare before the espionage den of U.S. imperialism that U.S. imperialism is responsible for all crimes before mankind, and these crimes are condemned by all progressive and peace-loving people of the world.

In concluding his speech, Mahmud Barialay said that the free and revolutionary people of Afghanistan, while condemning the crimes of the U.S. imperialism, declare resolute solidarity with the Muslim Libyan people and in one voice say: Death to U.S. imperialism; Death to the Reagan administration; Long live the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union; Long live Revolutionary Afghanistan; and Long Live heroic Libya; the people of Libya are invincible.

'Counterrevolutionaries' Surrender in Faryab

LD162214 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Quoting a spokesman of the country's security forces, a BIA correspondent reported that in the coninued return to the side of the government of those compatriots who had been under the hostile propaganda of the counterrevolutionaries, recently a 15-man group of ex-members of Jamiyat band surrendered to security forces of Sherin Tagab District, Faryab Province, availing themsleves of the amnesty decree of the Revolutionary Council Presidium. They brought with them 2 rocket launchers, 17 heavy machineguns, 50 light machineguns, 27 kaliashnikovs, 59 various weapons with a large amount of ammunition and hand grenades. In joining the tribal regiment of this distict, they gave an assurance to defend to the end the gains of the glorious 1 April revolution.

According to another report, as a result of the successful operations crried out by the tribal regiment of this district, 10 armed members of the Jamiyat band including their ringleader, Khair Muhammad, were (?arrested). As a result of these operations, the villages of Shsh Qala, Islam Qala, Garqarawul, Qeshlaq, Safid Qala, (?Zarin) Qala, and Goldad were cleared of the evils of the counterrevolutionaries.

Similarly, as a result of the successful operations carried out by the security forces in the environs of Deh Sebz district, Kabul Province, 21 surface-to-surface missiles and one launching unit with its fuses, were seized by the country's security forces.

Indian Students 'Capture' U.S. Center in Delhi

BK161627 Hong Kong AFP in English 1622 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi, April 16 (AFP) — Almost 100 members of the pro-communist All India Students Federation (AISF) Wednesday [16 April] put up banners and flags inside the U.S. centre here and announced its "capture" in protest against the U.S. attacks on Libya, eyewitnesses said.

The students slipped unnoticed in twos and threes into the centre in the city's main shoping centre, Connaught Place, which houses the U.S. Information Service and the American Library, then regrouped in the foyer and announced their "capture," AISF sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Police soon arrived and escorted the protesters from the building. They were greeted with cheers from a crowd which had gathered outside and which joined the students in shouting anti-U.S. slogans, eyewitnesses said.

The students were later released after warning, police sources said.

AISF sources said that the centre had been "captured" in protest at "the barbarous aggression of U.S. imperialism against Libya."

Demonstration Held in Front of U.S. Embassy

BK170744 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] In New Delhi, the Indian Youth Congress-I held a demonstration in front of the U.S. Embassy today [17 April] to protest against the U.S. attack on Libya. The president of the Indian Youth Congress-I, Mr Anand Sharma, handed over a memorandum to the embassy officials. The memorandum urges the United States to stop any further action and withdrawal of its naval forces near Libya.

Lok Sabha Condemns 'U.S. Aggression Against Libya'

BK161624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] The Lok Sabha today unanimously condemned the U.S. aggression against Libya. In a resolution adopted at the end of a special discussion on the recent bombing of Tripoli and Banghazi by U.S. aircraft, the house noted with deep shock and indignation the recent bombing raids by U.S.A. on Libyan territory. The resolution called upon the UN Security Council to take urgent action to condemn the aggression and to prevent repetition of such acts which violate international order and the UN Charter. The resolution, moved by the speaker, M. Balram Jakhar, expressed complete support and solidarity with the Government and people of Libya in their hour of trial. It demanded immediate cessation of provocative and hostile acts against a nonaligned country. The resolution earnestly called upon the United States and all others to exercise the utmost restraint and not do anything to further aggravate the already tense situation in the region.

The house was informed that according to latest reports, there have been no further raids. Colonel Qadhdhafi is reported to be safe, while his daughter was killed and two sons injured.

Nonaligned Ministers Speak Out on World Issues

Libya, Afghanistan Discussed

BK170921 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] The situation arising out of the U.S. attack on Libya continued to dominate the proceedings on the 2d day of the ministrial meeting of the nonaligned Coordinating Bureau in New Delhi. Most of the foreign ministers, who addressed the plenary session this morning, strongly criticized the American bombings of Tripoli and Banghazi. The Pakistan Foreign Minister, Mr Yaqub Khan, said the American air attacks on Libya violates the UN Charter and recognized norms of interstate conduct. About Afghanistan, he said three instruments which are to comprise the political settlement have been virtually finalized. He hoped that the central issue of the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan within a reasonable and acceptable timeframe will be finalized at the proximity talks in Geneva. Reviewing the international situation, he said the global rivalry between the superpowers has not abated. Economic turbulence has widened the gap between the developed and developing countries.

The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, Mr Shahul Hameed, wanted machinery to be set up to enable the Nonaligned Movement to respond with speed when the sovereignty, independence or territorial integrity of a member nation is violated or is at stake. Expressing distress over the attack on Libya, he said not infrequently the movement finds itself trapped in controversy when the independence of a member is threatened. He expressed the view that nonaligned states affected by external threats and interference in their internal affairs find themselves in a helpless situation because they lack defense capability. Mr Hameed called for full understanding by the great powers of the security demands of states in the Indian Ocean region. Equally, he said, there should be agreement within the region that interstate relations will be conducted in accordance with the principle of nonuse of force, noninterference in internal affairs, and peaceful settlment of disputes.

The Foreign Minister of Afghanistan, Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, blamed the United States for the situation in Afghanistan and in the neighboring region. He expressed the hope that the next round of negotiations with Pakistan would meet with success. He said that his government has already given a specific proposal giving a timeframe for withdrawal of the limited contingent of Soviet troops from the country.

The Algerian Foreign Minister, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, deploring the attack on Libya said that this has again brought to surface the superpower rivalry in the Mediterranean region.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, Mr Tariq 'Aziz, referred to the 6-year-old Gulf war. He said his country is prepared to end the war provided its sovereignty and territorial integrity are

protected under the principles of the UN Charter and of the Nonaligned Movement.

Sanctions Againrst U.S. Urged

BK161609 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] The ministers and heads of delegations from nonaligned countries who addressed the plenary session of the Coordinating Bureau in New Delhi today were unanimous in condemning the United States' attack on Libya. The other topics that dominated the day were the urgent need for steps toward disarmament, combating terrorism, and the economic difficulties confronting the developing world in the face of the unhelpful attitude of the richer nations in international economic relations. A large number of delegates spoke at length of the misdeeds of the Pretoria regime and lack of progress on the Namibian issue.

The Libyan Foreign Minister, Mr Kamil Hasan al-Mansur, called for firm condemnation of the U.S. acion against his country which, he said, constitutes an act of terrorism against humanity. He wanted the security council to impose sanctions against the United States for violating the UN Chartar. He added that the nonaligned countries should isolate the United States and they should not limit their action to words alone. Mr Kamil Hasan al-Mansur referred to yesterday's emergency meeting of the nonaligned delegations and appeciated the communique which condemns the attack on his country. He also expressed his happiness at Mr Rajiv Gandhi's statement.

Delegates Condemn Libyan Raid

BK170402 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] The heads of delegation who spoke in the late night plenary session of the nonaligned Coordinating Bureau meeting in New Delhi yesterday condemned unequivocally the United States for its attacks on Libya. They said the American attack constitutes a flagrant violation of the principles of justice and equality.

The Arab League representative described it as state terrorism committed against Libya. The secretary general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference said superpower rivalry is affecting peace in the Third World country. The Kuwaiti representative urged the nonaligned countries to put into joint efforts to end international terrorism. Representatives from Panama, Bolivia, and Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania also spoke in the session.

The discussions in the two NAM [Nonaligned Movement] committees which are considering the political and economic draft declaration have made considerable headway and agreement has been reached on a number of sections. An official spokesman told newsmen that both the committees consider the Indian draft as a good basis for discussions. Some of the sections have been assigned to subgroups for detailed consideration.

Indonesia 'Strongly' Denounces Raid

BK170545 Jakarta ANTARA in Indonesian
0449 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Excerpt] New Delhi, 16 April (Antara) — Indonesia strongly denounced the U.S. military attack on Libya, one of the member-countries in the Nonaligned Movement.

Foriegn Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja said this in his speech at a meeting of the nonaligned countries' foreign ministers in New Delhi on Wednesday night [16 April]. Mokhtar said: "The attack was obviously against the UN Charter and international law." He added that Indonesia always condemns all forms of aggression and military intervention against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of any country under whatever pretext. He also said that all parties involved in the conflict should now exercise restraint and not do anything that could aggravate the situation and threaten peace and security in that region, in particular, and around the world, in general. "For this reason, Indonesia fully supports the communique issued by the foriegn ministers and chief delegates of the nonaligned countries who held their emergency meeting in New Delhi on 15 April. Indonesia also hopes the UN Security Council will be able to take effective steps to prevent such an incident from recurring." The communique issued in New Delhi on Tuesday strongly condemned the United States for attacking Libyan territory. Mokhtar also expressed the hope that the situation will return to normal in that region.

The Indonesian delegation to the New Delhi meeting is headed by Mokhtar and has nine delegation members, including Ali Alatas, Nana Sutresna, and Indonesian Ambassador to India Tamtomo. The meeting is aimed at preparing the groundwork for a summit meeting of nonaligned countries' leaders to be held in Harare, Zimbabwe, in August-September this year.

Pakistani, Sri Lankan Ministers

BK170754 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] The ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the nonaligned countries began its second day's liberations in New Delhi today. Addressing the session, the foreign minister of Pakistan, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, described the U.S. attacks on Libya as unlawful acts, posing a major threat to peace in the region. He said the need of the hour is to resist direct threats to the integrity of the nonaligned nations.

Referring to Afghanistan, he called for the withdrawal of Soviet troops for a just and political settlement of the problem. The Pakistan foreign minister commended India's role as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement in the last 3 years.

The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, Mr Shahul Hameed, wanted machinery to be set up to enable the Nonaligned Movement to respond with speed when the independence of a member-country is at stake. Expressing distress over the attack on Libya, he said (?not infrequently) the movement finds itself trapped in controversy when the independence of a member is threatened. Mr Hameed called for full understanding with the great powers of

the security demands of states in the Indian Ocean region. Equally so, there should be agreement within the region that interstate relations will be conducted in accordance with the principles of nonuse of force, noninterference in the internal affairs, and peaceful settlement of disputes.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Holds Talks With Bhagat

BK151618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] The Pakistan Foreign Minister, Mr Yaqub Khan, had a 50-minute meeting with the external affairs minister, Mr Bhagat, in New Delhi today. The two ministers reaffirmed their countries' commitment to the Simla agreement.

Mr Bhagat recalled the prime minister's declaration that India wants to improve its relations with all neighbors, including Pakistan. There is no question of our going back on it. Mr Yaqub Khan said his country wants the process of normalization to be speeded up.

Replying to questions by newsmen, an official spokesman said that Mr Bhagat referred to the concern which has been voiced in India regarding Pakistani interference in our internal affairs. In this connection, he drew Mr Yaqub Khan's attention to the statements by the Punjab Chief Minister, Mr Barnala, and the Minister of State for Internal Security, Mr Arun Nehru.

Bilateral Relations Discussed

BK161457 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1431 GMT16 Apr

[Text] Briefing newsmen on 15 April 1986, the officvial spokesman said that Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan today met External Affairs Minister B.P. Bhagat. The meeting lasted about 50 minutes. The Pakistan foreign minister was assisted by Foreign Secretary Niaz Naik and Ambassador Humayun Khan. The Indian minister was assisted by Joint Secretary S.K. Lambha and Joint Secretary Shri G. Parthasarathy.

Yaqub Khan told Bhagat that it was an extremely good decision that India had helped in holding an emergency session on Libya. He also paid tribute to India's role as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. The two ministers also discussed in some detail issues which were likely to come up for discussion in the ministerial conference of the nonaligned Coordinating Bureau.

On bilateral relations from his side Sahabzada Yaqub Khan reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the Simla agreement. He said that the process of normalisatin should continue and that he would like it to pick up speed. As regards the two subcommissions which were to meet in New Delhi, Yaqub Khan acknowledged that there had been some procedural delays on their side in being able to work out details for these meetings. He expressed hope that these meetings would take place soon. There was also some discussion on increasing people to people contacts.

The external affairs minister also reaffirmed India's commitment to the Simla agreement and to the process of improvement of relations with Pakistan. Bhagat recalled that one of the basic and strong commitments of the prime minister was to improve relations with all our neighbours including Pakistan and added that there was no question of our going back on this commitment as also to improving relations with Pakistan. We had to move ahead step by step to build confidence.

The external affairs minister referred to concern which was being voiced in the Indian Parliament about Pakistani interference in our internal affairs. He drew Yaqub Khan's attention to statements which had been made by Punjab Chief Minister Barnala and Minister of Internal Security Arun Nehru.

Khamene'i Urges Nonaligned Condemnation of U.S.

LD170946 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 17, IRNA — In a message to Indian Prime Minister and chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), Rajiv Gandhi, on Thursday, President 'Ali Khamene'i of Iran called for condemnation of the recent U.S. aggression against Libya.

The president said in his message that if NAM member countries and independent politicians remained indifferent to this aggression, undoubtedly there would be no guarantee for sovereignty of small countries and prestige of the NAM would be marred.

He also urged the Indian prime minister to provide the ongoing NAM conference with an opportunity to take a suitable measure against the U.S. aggression against Libya.

Cabinet Meets; Musavi Remarks on U.S. Raid on Libya

LD161413 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] During today's cabinet session, after reviewing the regional issues, the attack by the great Satan on the brother Muslim country, Libya, was discussed. Reiterating the all-round support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the Libyan Government in the face of 'U.S.' aggression, Prime Minister Musavi said: The planners of this idiotic attack, which was not endorsed by most friends and allies of the U.S., have mistaken the present age with the time when cowboys ruled the roost.

During today's session, regulations on 1986-87 imports and exports were discussed. More facilities were placed at the disposal of the ministries of agriculture, education and training and health, treatment and medical training. The amended regulations were approved by the cabinet.

During the session, the proposal for taking Qon out of the jurisdiction of the Central Province and joining it to Tehran Province was also approved.

After today's session, in an interview with reporters, regarding Oil Minister Aqazadeh's proposal to OPEC, Prime Minister Musavi said: The proposal to condemn the United States has been put to the conference so that the United States will be condemned accordingly.

He said: We are in favor of an oil embargo on the United States with full political-economic grounds; we expect all progressive countries to vote in favor of this issue.

He then called the U.S. aggression against Libya a great defeat for the U.S. He said: Only some close friends of the United States such as Israel, Britain, and Canada, who are U.S. servants, endorsed the operation. All other countries condemn it.

He added: The Third World, namely the Organization of African Unity and the Nonaligned Movement have strongly condemned this aggression. Saudi Arabia has confined itself to merely calling the U.S. aggression against Libya undesirable and has asked for the United Nations to resolve it. In this connection, George Bush's stance shows that this action was coordinated with the reactionary rulers in the region.

He said: Public opinion condemns the U.S. action. They will definitely not decrease resistance against world arrogance.

Rafsanjani Sees No 'Serious Threat' to Libya

LD170649 Tehran IRNA in English 0640 GMT 17 Apr 86

["Rafsanjani: Iran on the Side of Libya Against any Aggression" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, April 17, IRNA — The progressive Islamic countries such as Iran and Syria will be on the side of Libya in its confrontation with U.S. aggression, said Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the spokesman of the Supreme Defence Council, here Wednesday night.

Speaking after the session which was also attended by President Khamene'i who is also the head of the council, Rafsanjani said that the recent U.S. strikes against Libya were of no military value. He father reiterated support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for Libya.

When asked about forms of Iran's support for Libya in case it faced serious threats, he said, "We will increase our support for Libya to suit the needs of certain conditions." However he added, "we do not believe Libya is under any serious threat."

On collaboration of reactionary governments of the region with the U.S. in its attack against Libya, Rafsanjani said that statements of the U.S. Vice President, George Bush that he has discussed the issue with the leaders of Arab countries of the region, reveals many facts.

If the statements made by Bush are true, he added, a number of the countries of the region are U.S.'s accomplices. And if Bush has lied, countries of the region must either file a suit against him or at least deny his remarks, Rafsanjani added.

Besharati Condemns U.S. in Meeting With Envoys

LD161817 Tehran IRNA in English 1358 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 16, IRNA — Ambassadors, charge d'affaires, and heads of political delegations to Tehran met here Wednesday with the Islamic Republic's acting foreign minister, 'Ali Mohammad Besharati.

Besharati told the diplomats that the Islamic Republic of Iran expects all independent and justice-seeking countries of the world, especially the Islamic and Arab states condemn the United States, but not only in words.

Rather, he said "they should impose an all-out economic political sanctions upon the U.S. pugnacious administration and prove that sovereign states of the world, especially the Islamic ones, cannot be suitable places for the adventurist acts of their war machines."

Iran expects, he said "the international community, the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, the Organization of Islamic Conference, the Arab League, the Organization of African Unity, and the Organization of American States to take necessary measures for confronting the U.S. state-sponsored terrorism."

"While condemning the U.S. aggression and expressing aversion to this frenzied act of Reagan terrorist administration, the Islamic Republic of Iran declares that it stands by the side of the Libyan people and Government, and will not hesitate to support Libya in defending its independence and the honor of its Islamic territory," according to Besharati.

"We believe that such aggressions will not whatsoever alter Libyan people's determination to fight against imperialism and defend their national sovereignty. On the contrary, they contribute to strengthening the Libyan people's support for their revolutionary leader, who stands in the frontline of struggles against world imperialism and Zionism," he added.

Montazeri Charges Gulf States With Complicity

LD161633 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Following the barbaric attack by U.S. fighter planes on residential areas of the Islamic state of Libya, which rolled a number of our Muslim Libyan brothers and sisters into dust and blood, this morning Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, at the start of his theology lecture, while expressing sympathy with the Muslim nation of Libya and offering condolences to them, graciously said: The U.S. attack on Libya is in fact an attack on the one nation of Islam and all Muslims, particularly the Arab countries, should not remain indifferent vis-a-vis this crime.

His eminence stressed: Superficial, verbal condemnation of the United States would not treat any ailment. The Muslims should think of something basic.

His eminence pointed out: Under the circumstances whereby the policy of the United States and Western countries is based on support for terrorism and massacre and plundering of nations, how can they present themselves as opponents of terrorism? You witness that in the beginning Israel was created by a group of Jewish terrorists with the backing of the United States and Britain in the land of Palestine and so far thousands of Palestinian Muslims have either become homeless or been martyred.

His eminence added: It is amazing to see that those countries that are notorious terrorists themselves, are trying to depict themselves as opponents of terrorism. All the Western governments and those countries that have friendly relations with the United States are participants in this barbaric crime. They should reconsider their relations with the United States. Note, for instance, the leaders of the Persian Gulf countries, who met Bush recently to sign some confidential agreements. On the one hand, they are selling their oil cheap and have placed all their resources at the disposal of the United States; in return, the United States uses their petro-dollars to support Israel, enabling Israel to continue any crime it desires in Palestine, Lebanon, and Arab countries.

On the other hand, the same countries of the Persian Gulf support Saddam enabling Saddam to continue his crimes for several more days. Without their support, Saddam would be nothing. The leaders of the Gulf countries should realize that they have a share in all crimes of the United States, Israel, and Saddam. Anywhere that the blood of an innocent person is shed by the United States, Israel, or Saddam, and anytime the United States launches a military attack and aggression on the Islamic state of Libya, the leaders of the Persian Gulf countries, through their good relations, are partners with the United States and Saddam in their crimes. They should reconsider their position before it is too late and before they find themselves sharing the same fate as Mohammad Reza Shah and his examples. Today the nations are waking up and seeking freedom.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri emphasized: Following this aggression and the blatant U.S. attack on Libya, the Islamic ummah are dutybound to take some serious and basic measure against the front of blasphemy. They should know that the entire global arrogance is united on a single front against the Islamic ummah.

About the nonaligned countries, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri graciously stressed: To be nonaligned by name and slogan and to maintain friendly relations with the United States and its ilk is pointless. If they are telling the truth, they should have practical commitments vis-a-vis the U.S. crimes in the world and they should sever relations with the United States, as did the revolutionary state of Iran, which broke off relations with the United States and arrested the U.S. spies and kicked them out of the country and the United States could not do a damn thing.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, in connection with the recent decree of the imam of the ummah on mobilization of all forces towards the fronts, graciously pointed out: The imam meant that all the fronts should be supplied with the necessary forces with all the hierarchy. That is commanders, combatants, and so on. There should not be any shortcomings and the rest of the forces should remain ready until the day when they are needed. The imam did not mean that all the forces should leave for the front without orders and requirements from various departments, which, for instance, might close down all state offices, institutions, universities, and seminaries. In that case, people's affairs would be left unattended. Certainly, his holiness did not have this in mind. Of course, from every seminary, university, and other organs and institutions, only certain numbers of volunteers should go to meet the present requirements of the battlefronts. The imam's objective is that all the nation's strata should be prepared to go to the front and defend Islam if the need were to arise. That is, the guards corps, armed forces, and mobilization forces should give the necessary training to the volunteers and should organize them. They should then remain ready until they are needed.

His eminence graciously emphasized: Of course, a day might come that all the strata and segments of the society feel dutybound to abandon all their works to go to battlefronts. But their duty today, which the imam emphasized, is to fill the fronts up to the limit of war's requirements alone and not to close down their institutions and offices and abandon their work.

IRGC Minister Assures Libya's Jabir of Support

LD162019 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 16, IRNA — Minister of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdoust sent a message Wednesday to Libya's commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir announcing the IRGC's preparedness to stand by the Tripoli government and take whatever action deemed necessary against the militarist U.S. government.

In the message, the IRGC minister said that all Muslim peoples should rise up against such terroristic actions of the U.S. He added that Muslim nations ought to force their governments to take serious action vis-a-vis such attempts by Washington and other big powers to impose their hegemony on them.

Syria's Al-Shar' Leaves Tehran, Comments on Raid

JN151900 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, 15 Apr (SANA) — Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' left Tehran for New Delhi this afternoon to participate in the nonaligned foreign ministers' conference which will open in the Indian capital tomorrow. He was seen off at Tehran International Airport by Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who will leave for New Delhi for the same purpose later today.

Replying to reporters' questions at the airport, Al-Shar' described his talks with Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary Kamil Hasan al-Mansur and Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati yesterday and today as useful and said that viewpoints regarding the issues of common concern were identical. He added that the three ministers today met with Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i and Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi and said talks focused in particular on the unjust and unjustified U.S. aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah at dawn today. He indicated that it was natural for the topic of aggression to occupy most of the discussion, especially since the three countries have long been exposed to a wild imperialist and Zionist onslaught.

The foreign minister announced that stress was made during the meetings on the importance of confronting this blatant U.S. aggression and on studying ways to counter it, especially since these aggressions prove the terrorist and expansionist U.S. policy, which is hostile to peoples, their freedoms, and their independence. He said: We collectively emphasized our firm condemnation of this flagrant aggression and a joint communique will later be issued in this regard. We also appealed to all countries, particularly Arab, Islamic, and nonaligned countries, to adopt practical stands and measures in support of the Jamahiriyah against the U.S. aggression.

Al-Shar' added that the three ministers will intensify their efforts during their participation in the New Delhi conference tomorrow for the sake of adopting a unified stand by the nonaligned countries in order to confront and deter U.S. aggression.

Replying to another question, Al-Shar' said: The bombing of civilian quarters in a sovereign country like the Jamahiriyah by a superpower and a permanent UN Security Council member, which is concerned with world peace and security, can only be denounced and condemned. He described the U.S. aggression against the Jamahiriyah as an honor and said this aggression will kindle worldwide anti-U.S. feelings.

Replying to a question on the Syrian position toward the French decision to prevent access to U.S. aircraft to French airspace, Al-Shar' said: We appreciate the position of every country which does not cooperate with U.S. aggression and at the same time condemn any cooperation or involvement in this aggression.

Commentary Urges Actions Against U.S., EEC

LD151659 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The Americans Have Set Fire to a Powderkeg. This is the title of today's *ETTELA'AT* political commentary. We draw your attention to it:

Referring to the news of the terrorist raid by U.S. fighters on Libya, which took place last night, *ETTELA'AT* writes: This act by the U.S. Army against Libya, which gave a more objective view of the terrorist nature of the U.S. Administration, had already been cleared with the 12 EEC member-countries as well as U.S. cohorts in other parts of the world, so much so that during their meeting yesterday EEC members unanimously condemned Libya for so-called terrorist activities in various parts of the world against imperialist U.S. interests. They consequently decided to ban the sale of arms to Libya and to create obstacles for Libyan citizens traveling to European countries.

On the other hand, the UN Security Council meeting yesterday failed to show any decisive reaction against the serious U.S. threats against Libya in the Mediterranean; as a result, the U.S. Administration was encouraged in its military invasion against the Libyan Government and people.

What is important in the midst of all these events is Arab countries' reaction. This is the great acid test for Arab countries' regimes. Here we have an Arab country being openly invaded by the United States. The U.S. Administration is insolently issuing a challenge, saying that whenever it wishes and considers it appropriate it will not refrain from resorting to military action anywhere in the world, thus trying to intimidate the Third World countries. Arab countries must consider it their duty to declare unswerving support for the countries intimidated by the United States, divorced from any peripheral differences they might have. Arab countries, having condemned U.S. aggressive acts, must take practical economic, military, and political actions against the United States and its European allies crystallized in the Common Market.

The aggressive act by the United States against Libya will not weaken the intensity of anti-imperialist actions of the awakened people of the world. Rather, it will have a positive effect in strengthening their unity and cohesion more than ever before. There remains no doubt that it is only through military, economic, and cultural confrontation that global arrogance can be brought to its knees. Death to America!

Guards Corps Announces Plans for Training Women

LD161711 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0730 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] The official in charge of mobilizing women at the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps said, in an interview on the participation of sisters in relief, military, and logistic training for the frontlines: Following the remarks of the imam of the ummah regarding military training for women, the headquarters for mobilizing the sisters has provided facilities that are now ready for use. He added: All the sisters who have announced their readiness to take part in military training have started their training at the Holy Zahra training centers, which comply with religious requirements in every way.

The official in charge of mobilizing women at the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, said: In order to provide the instructors needed for training the sisters, an instructor's training course will begin 20 April. This course will train 2,000 instructors and relief workers who can serve on and behind the frontline if need be. He added in conclusion: Trained sisters will be ready to be sent to the fronts or behind the frontlines on the orders of responsible officials. Those who would like to enlist in the mobilization of the oppressed forces can fill out the special forms and announce their readiness. If they have the necessary requirements they can serve as permanent personnel of the mobilization forces.

Rafsanjani Interviewed on Military Training, Libya

GF170622 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] The Supreme Defense Council met last night. At the end of the meeting, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, answered our reporter's questions on the issues discussed in this meeting — the dispatch of the Karbala' convoys, the U.S. aggression against Libya, and the role of the Arab reactionaries in this aggression. We draw your attention to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, what issues were discussed in tonight's Supreme Defense Council meeting and what were some of the important points raised?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the merciful and the compassionate: Part of the meeting dealt with the situation on the battlefronts, the war in general, and the programs of the war. A more important segment of the meeting dealt with the Jerusalem reserve battalions and, in general, the reserve units of the ground forces. The issues involved with this were discussed, but these talks were not completed and it was decided that a commission should look into these matters, which will be discussed and decided upon in the next meeting of the Supreme Defense Council.

[Correspondent] Following the orders of the respected imam concerning the ever-increasing presence of the people on the battlefronts, various groups of people have announced their readiness to go to the fronts. Would you tell us the extent of success in the armed forces in training, organizing, and arming these people?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In dispatching trained troops who have already served on the fronts there is no question of training, it is more a matter of organization. The units on the fronts are ready to absorb new forces and when the units' requirements are met and once the reserve units are organized, it will be announced that other people are no longer needed. But for now, there is still room for more recruits. Troops are continuing to leave the provinces, but have not reached the areas where they are assigned. This has to continue for the time being. Once we believe we do not need these people, we will announce it and their departures will stop. This applies to troops who have already served on the fronts.

Concerning those forces who are new and must be trained, we have organized widespread training. First of all, the mobilization unit has 30 training camps throughout the country and it has been agreed to give them more facilities so they can train more men. The ground forces have many training centers. In the past they only trained soldiers serving compulsory military service. However, it was decided that, if the number of volunteers exceeded the amount who could be handled by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], we should use the facilities of the ground forces. Therefore, first the IRGC camps and the mobilization camps will train men, but if need be we shall use all the facilities of the Armed Forces. If the number of volunteers increases to beyond these capabilities, then we shall take people in turns. So far we have not reached such a stage and they are able to absorb the volunteers.

Concerning training, and with regard to soldiers in military service, in the past we used to take soldiers in a certain manner, for example, several thousand a month. It was decided that in accordance with this new plan, which has been brought up in the Majlis and which prescribes certain punishments for soldiers who do not sign up on time, the rate of registrations will natually increase. It was decided that the ground forces should have new facilities to double its training capabilities. Therefore, I say to those soldiers who applied to the recruitment centers and were told to come back later, to come forth now, because now any soldier who applies and registers will be trained, with the new facilities placed at their disposal. While we are training volunteers who are not part of the military services, those who are at the right age for their military service take first priority and must be trained as well.

[Correspondent] With regard to the U.S. attack on Libya and the bombing of that country's residential areas, how do you see the role of the Arab reactionaries in this attack? What duties and responsibilities do the progressive regimes in the region have to prevent this kind of aggression?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] I, myself, do not have special information on the role of the Arab reactionaries. I know what has been said. Mr Bush, the U.S. vice president, announced formally that during the recent visit he made to the region he claimed he had talked with the Arab countries in the region and these countries agreed to remain silent and not protest with regard to this aggression. If we presume this is true — of course, these people are now protesting themselves — but, if this is true and if Mr

Bush really talked about this and if the Arabs agreed to remain silent, they bear the biggest blame. They are considered to be partners in crime because they knew in advance and even if they protest now, the United States may not take these protests too seriously; it may say that these protests are not serious and the Arabs are just saying something to save face.

As I said, I doubt very much that the United States would tell such a lie; if they are lying, the Arab countries should seriously condemn this and make a great deal of fuss about it. How can an official of the U.S. Government formally announce that the Arab countries are supposed to remain silent?

It is very likely that this is the case, and if that is indeed what happened, these Arabs are partners in crime and the protests they launch and their condemnations should be regarded as empty words that are not serious.

Concerning the progressive states, the Arab and non-Arab countries, such as Syria, Iran, and some other countries, have a serious role to play in preventing this crime. We are serious and we support Libya. Syria will seriously support Libya and is doing so right now. It shall not leave Libya all alone. If Libya was facing a normal, small regional power, then maybe it would not have such a great need for us to help it. But when it is facing a power such as the United States, we must really support it. The issue is great and we are ready to do what we can for the Libyans. [end recording]

Iranian Foreign Minister Meets Indian Counterpart

GF161244 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who is currently in New Delhi to participate in the nonaligned foreign ministers' conference, met with Indian Minister of External Affairs Bhagat at the conference headquarters today.

During the meeting they exchanged views on the nonaligned foreign ministers' conference and recent political developments, including the U.S. aggression against Libya. Velayati stressed the importance of the Nonaligned Movement's adoption of a decisive stance in support of Libya against U.S. imperialism.

The two ministers stressed the importance of coordination and consultation on issues that will be presented to the nonaligned conference.

Egyptian Political Prisoners Sent to Iraqi Battlefront

LD161949 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] The Egyptian regime is dispatching its prisoners to the battlefronts of Iraq's war against Iran. According to reports received recently, a large number of Egyptian prisoners who had had their hands tied and were in a very bad state of health arrived in Baghdad in order to participate, under threat, in the battlefronts of the imposed Iraqi war against Iran. According to the report of the Central News Unit, quoting from the publication *AKHBAR AL-IRAQ*, the Mubarak regime, following the failure of its efforts to attract Egyptian volunteers and dispatch them to Iraq, resorted to this inhuman measure against prisoners.

This report also states: Egypt's prisons are currently full of Muslims who oppose it and Mubarak's regime, by dispatching prisoners to Iraq, is trying to make room in its prisons for more political prisoners.

Polish Airliner Chased by Iraqi Warplanes

LD171112 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT 17 Apr 86

["Polish Plane Saved From Iraqi War Planes" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, April 17, IRNA — Radar and warning system of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Thursday saved a Polish airliner en route New Delhi from being attacked by invading Iraqi jet fighters, an informed source from Iranian Air Force said here Thursday.

The Polish airliner, was flying over the space of Tabriz in East Azarbaijan Province Thursday morning when Iranian warning system informed the pilot that the Iraqi warplanes were chasing it.

Upon receiving the warning the plane changed its direction toward the north. Immediately the anti-aircraft units of the Islamic forces of Iran opened fire on Iraqi warplanes preventing them fromm following the Polish plane.

An official from the War Information Headquarters told IRNA that the Polish plane after changing its route landed safely in Soviet territory.

The Iraqi regime has repeatedly violated international laws and has attacked several passenger planes.

So far, no serious measure has been taken by international organizations in condemnation of the Iraqi violation. The latest of the Iraqi attack on passenger plane was the downing of an Iranian airliner in Khuzestan region carrying a number of Iranian officials. In this brutal attack all those on board were martyred.

500 Iraqi Troops Reported 'Executed' by Saddam Regime

LD162023 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] According to our correspondent's dispatch from Khuzestan, an Iraqi Army refugee who had surrendered to Islam's combatants, revealed in an interview yet another crime perpetrated by Saddam's evil regime in massacring 500 Iraqi Army personnel. We now draw your attention to this report:

Every day that passes reveals new crimes by Saddam in massacring Iraqi army personnel who suffered a heavy defeat at the hands of Islam's forces during the Val-Fajr 8 operations. An Iraqi Army refugee who recently succeeded in fleeing from the iniqui-

ties and oppression of the Baghdad regime and who surrendered to Islam's forces exposed the circumstances of the massacre of some 500 Iraqi Army personnel. Quoting one of his relatives who works in Baghdad's big cold storage building and who witnessed the incidents, he said: Recently, the Saddam regime, after preliminary investigations, condemned to death 500 officers, NCO's, and troops of the Iraqi Army who were charged with treason, cowardice, and refusal to carry out orders in the Al-Faw operational theater. The death sentences on these people were carried out in the locality of Baghdad's big cold storage building. Immediately after their execution, the bodies were handed over to Baghdad's cold storage company.

Iraqi Frigate Destroyed in Al-Faw Region
LD171104 Tehran IRNA in English 1051 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 17, IRNA — An Iraqi frigate entrapped in Khur-Abadallah waterway in the Al-Faw region was destroyed by the naval forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Thursday morning, according to Khatem ol-Anbiya' headquarters Thursday.

The headquarters said the Iraqi frigate sank with all its crews in Khur-Abdallah Waters.

Khatem ol-Anbiya' is the joint Army-IRGC military headquarters.

Meanwhile, five Iraqi soldiers took refuge with Iranian Muslim combatants in the southern fronts and the Val-Fajr 8 operational theater during Wednesday and Thursday, Khatem ol-Anbiya' HQ. said.

Iran War Communique 2442 Reports Iraqi Positions Hit
LD161808 Tehran IRNA in English 1658 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 16, IRNA — Iranian fighter bombers pounded concentration centers of Iraqi troops, artillery and armoured units in Iraq's Zubaydat region twice Wednesday morning, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them, according to a military communique here Wednesday.

The communique number 2442 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces says that the raids were [word indistinct] east coordinates at 09:00 and again at 11:05 hours. The Iranian planes after successfully carrying out their missions all returned to their bases safely.

Islamic forces of Iran repulsed all tactical operations of Iraqi forces in Miyan-Tang and Kisgeh Heights and continued their fierce fighting with enemy troops in the western fronts Tuesday, according to the communique.

At least 25 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and scores of their gun emplacements and several vehicles of their were destroyed in the western fronts as their positions were shelled by Iranian Muslim combatants, reports the Joint Staff.

The communique says that Iranian artillery fire hit economic installations and industrial centers of Iraqi township of Banmil and Naftkhaneh, inflicting heavy damage on them.

Iranian Muslim combatants captured 12 Iraqi soldiers in Zubaydat. They also opened fire on Iraqi motor boats near Jofeyr, inflicting casualties and losses on them and halting their operation.

In the southern fronts, the communique says, fighting broke out between Iranian Muslim forces and Iraqi troops in Zubaydat and Hamrin Heights which continued at the time the communique was released Wednesday.

Iran's Muslim troops also opened fire on Iraqi vehicle columns carrying troops in Helaleh and on their patrols elsewhere in Kani-Sheykh. They also pounded enemy tanks and vehicle columns in Fakkeh, Chazzabeh and west of Jofeyr.

Antiaircraft Fire Shoots Down Iraqi Helicopter
LD170941 Tehran IRNA in English 0823 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 17, IRNA — An Iraqi helicopter was shot down by fire of anti-aircraft units of the Islamic forces of Iran in Khur-Abdallah water way in the Val-Fajr 8 operational theater, Al-Faw region, Wednesday afternoon, according to a statement of Khatem ol-Anbiya' headquarters.

Khatem ol-Anbiya' is the joint military headquarters of Iran's Army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps.